

**Weekly Status & Information Report:  
Week of June 30 - July 3, 2008**

**1. Takoma Park 4th of July Celebrations:** Tomorrow, Takoma Park celebrates its 199th Independence Day parade and fireworks event. The parade begins at 10:00am at Carroll and Ethan Allen Avenues; it follows Carroll Avenue towards DC, crosses over to Maple Avenue along Carroll Street, then returns along Maple Avenue. The evening program is at 7:30pm at Takoma Park Middle School; fireworks will follow at 9:30pm.  
*(Executive Assistant)*

**2. Community Center Holiday Hours:**

- Friday, July 4: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00p.m. Community Center is open to the public for restrooms and official Independence Day Committee staging; Computer Learning Center and Library are Closed.

- Saturday, July 5: Community Center and Computer Learning Center are closed; Library is open from 10:00am-5:00pm.

Sunday, July 6: Community Center, Computer Learning Center, and Library are Closed  
*(Recreation)*

**3. Street Resurfacing Program:** Beginning July 7, the City contractor will begin street resurfacing work scheduled for the new fiscal year. The work will include repair to broken curbs and gutter, sidewalks and driveway aprons and then will be followed by milling and resurfacing of the street. The schedule includes Baltimore Avenue from New York Avenue to Albany Avenue, Albany Avenue from Baltimore Avenue to Buffalo Avenue, Buffalo Avenue from Albany Avenue to Takoma Avenue and Cleveland Avenue. The affected areas will be posted for no parking during the work and residents will receive a flyer. Any questions should be directed to the City Engineer, Ali Khalilian at 301-891-7620. *(Public Works)*

**4. Upgrading the Phones:** This week the Information Systems Department completed phone system upgrades. This comprehensive task included software upgrades to our main NEC Phone Switch and hardware upgrades to our remote cites. The project was completed over the course of 3 days to minimize phone service interruptions during business hours. This phone work will improve phone services at both Public Works and the New Hampshire Avenue Recreation Center. It will also prepare to take advantage of the Verizon fiber once it's available. The Information Systems Department apologizes for any inconvenience our brief phone service interruptions may have caused.  
*(Information Systems)*

**5. Meeting Held for Lockney/Kennewick Avenue Tenants (Ward 6):** CSAFE staff members Gretchen Hilburger and Mary Kendall, and Community Organizer Rozanne Look, held a meeting on Tuesday, July 1, at 7:00pm for tenants living on Lockney and Kennewick Avenues. Police Chief Ricucci, Public Works Director Daryl Braithwaite, and Landlord-Tenant Manager Linda Walker attended to answer questions that pertained to their departments. Some issues that were discussed included security in the area, street lighting, housing code violations and the speed bump application process. Scheduled meetings in this area will continue on a monthly basis. For further information, call the CSAFE program at (301) 439-0971/0972. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**6. Staff Attends Housing Counseling Training:** Landlord-Tenant Manager Linda Walker attended a 5 day NeighborWorks, America training in Denver on Housing

Counseling this past week. Housing counselors provide individual counseling services to first time home buyers as well as to those who are experiencing financial problems since purchasing their homes. Future individual counseling services will be part of the First Time Home Buyer educational program, which will commence in October 2008. For further information about individual counseling, call (301) 891-7222. (*Housing and Community Development*)

**7. "Prevent Foreclosure" Class To Be Held on August 23:** HomeFree USA, a non-profit housing counseling organization, and the City of Takoma Park are planning a Foreclosure Prevention Class that will be held at the Takoma Park Community Center from 10:00am-3:00pm on Saturday, August 23, 2008. Individual housing counseling will be available to attendees. For further information, call (301) 891-7222. (*Housing and Community Development*)

**8. Community Center Signs:** New signs on the outside and inside of the Takoma Park Community Center have been installed. Another 16 or so signs will be installed a couple of weeks from now. The interior signs have a drawing of an azalea as the decorative item (since Takoma Park is the "Azalea City"). Exterior signs (including several more for the Grant Avenue and Police Department entrances that are still to come) display the full name of the building: "Takoma Park Community Center / Sam Abbott Citizens' Center." Thanks to Takoma Park resident Terry Healy and Charlie Flexon of Gallagher Associates for the design work and to NW Signs for the fabrication and installation. (*Deputy City Manager*)

**9. Officers in Meetings:**

- On July 3, Chief Ricucci and members of the Police Department participated in, and attended, the funeral for Prince George's County Officer, Cpl. Richard Scott Findley, who was killed in the line of duty on June 27 while attempting to stop two suspects in a suspected stolen vehicle.
- On Independence Day, Chief Ricucci and other members of the Police Department will participate in the City of Takoma Park 4th of July Parade. (*Police*)

**10. Traffic Enforcement:**

- Officers conducted at least 151 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, one (1) vehicle impounds and one (1) Controlled Dangerous Substance (CDS) arrest.

***During the week of June 25-July 3, 2008, the following details were completed***

June 25, 2008

- 1000 block of East West Highway (speeding) - conducted a half (1/2) hour detail and issued two (2) state citations.
- 7000 block of New Hampshire Avenue (speeding) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued four (4) state citations.

June 26, 2008

- 7000 block of New Hampshire Avenue (speeding) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued three (3) state citations and one (1) other citation.

June 27, 2008

- New Hampshire Avenue and Larch Avenue (speeding) - conducted a two (2) hour detail and issued one (1) other state citation and six (6) warnings.

June 28, 2008

- New Hampshire Avenue and Lockney Avenue (speeding) - conducted a two and a half (2 ½) hour detail and issued two (2) state citations and one (1) warning.

June 30, 2008

- Kansas Avenue and Westmoreland Avenue (stop sign) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued three (3) warnings.

July 1, 2008

- 900-1000 block of East West Highway (speeding) - conducted a one and a half (1 ½) hour detail and issued four (4) state citations.

July 2, 2008

- Takoma Avenue and Albany Avenue (stop sign) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued one (1) warning.

- Ethan Allen Avenue and Jackson Avenue (stop sign) - conducted a half (1/2) hour detail and issued one (1) warning.

July 3, 2008

- 1100 block of University Blvd. (speeding) - conducted a one and a half (1 ½) hour detail and issued four (4) warnings.

11. **City TV at Work:** City TV crews will be covering the Independence Day Parade tomorrow morning. (*City TV*)

12. **The Alliance:** Communications Office staff will be attending the Alliance for Community Media conference being held in D.C. next week, starting on Wednesday. (*City TV*)

13. **Just Say YES:** The YES Basketball League finished up its third week of exciting games this Wednesday at Takoma Park Elementary School. The school gym has been packed to capacity with parents and spectators watching the games. The teams will continue to practice every Tuesday, and play their games on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM. Note: the Piney Branch Elementary School is closed for the entire summer so the games were moved to TPES. (*Recreation*)

14. **For Adults Only:** The Adult Co-Ed Softball League is down to its final two weeks, with an exciting finish to the season on the horizon. With only two game-days left, three of the four teams still have a chance for first place. The Softball League plays on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am at Ed Wilhelm and Lee Jordan Fields. (*Recreation*)

15. **Outreach:** The Seniors Program Coordinator, Paula Lisowski, joined residents for the 2008 Annual Independence Holiday Barbecue on July 2 on the front lawn of Franklin Apartments. Approximately 90 seniors enjoyed the food and festivities. Seniors had the opportunity to obtain copies of the July 2008 Silver Foxes Newsletter and talk to the coordinator about the valuable senior program offered at the Takoma Park Community Center. (*Recreation*)

16. **Conflict Resolution for Teens:** Takoma Park Recreation Department and Safe Takoma have partnered this summer to offer a 7-week Conflict Resolution training for

teens enrolled in our summer camp programs. The youth participating in this program are the Counselor in Training Program facilitated by Karla Kelley and Extreme Horizons Camp facilitated by Alexandria Wilson and Carlos Morales. Twenty - one youth age 11 - 18 years of age will be impacted by the information learned in this program. Trainers Jacob Stone and Monika Megyesi lead the youth through various scenarios and games to generate discussion on how to use the conflict resolution techniques they are being taught. Youth are able to gain community service learning hours by taking part in this training. *(Recreation)*

17. **Extreme Excitement:** Extreme Horizons finished the second week of camp. They went rock climbing at Earth Treks in Rockville, learned about SCUBA diving in Bethesda, watched a step/tap performance at the Smithsonian Theater, attended a Hagerstown Suns baseball game, and braved the roller coasters at Kings Dominion. *(Recreation)*

18. **All About Me:** Camp Takoma's week was fun filled and educational with a theme "All About Me." On Tuesday, MerMan's "Learn to be Bully Free" program taught the kids how to deal with bullying and they learned some neat magic tricks as well. Thursday, they traveled to Wolf Trap to watch Mark Jaster's Piccolo's Trunk program. A gentle, wordless and slightly kooky character engages the audience with a variety of comical and musical surprises. Piccolo's Trunk contains spectacular skill, foolish antics, playful participation and fun for all. The week also included swimming at Long Branch Pool and other activities to help the children discover that they are all unique and special. *(Recreation)*